

Note: Date Change to Third Wednesday!



**1184th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**
7:30PM Wednesday December 17, 2014
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California

HOLIDAY PARTY

Annual Holiday Party!

Please join us December 17, 2014 for the annual holiday party. As is tradition, the event is potluck. Bring something delicious to share and enjoy what your fellow members bring as well.

A good time will be had by all!

1183st meeting, November 26, 2014

Stephen Huston presented his talk: **Monetary History — Debunking the Myth of 1776**

The current version of the history of money builds on the description of barter as proposed by Adam Smith in his classic work, *Wealth of Nations*, published in 1776. He argued that direct barter required face-to-face, inefficient trading activity. Smith was a moral philosopher explaining why people do what they do. His story barter and the history of money formed the foundation of the field of economics. Unfortunately, he made it up.

Inscribed objects had been used to record trading activities for nearly 12,000 years. In effect, these documents (typically clay tablets) recorded values and are analogous to money of account. Current theories posit that writing evolved from these early symbols used for accounting.

Early money, really coins, did not “circulate” widely as Smith proposed, nor did its use spread rapidly. Coinage as it developed was primarily local and only slowly became money of account as opposed to replacing barter.

Exhibits:

Dan shared selections from the PCNS archives including early banquet photos and a photo album of PCNS presidents (through 1994).

Mark shared a Chinese-French Bank bond from 1913.

Michael exhibited two gold medals awarded to August Vollmer of Berkeley. Vollmer was Berkeley's police chief and one of the father's of modern criminology. One medal was presented by the Harmon Foundation for his contributions in Public Service, and the other was awarded by the National Academy of Sciences for his contribution to Public Welfare (criminology).

Herb shared two well-preserved British advertising tokens from Faturini & Sons, jewelers.

Mary shared six ancient Seleucid coins, one each from Seleucus I (drachm), Seleucus II (drachm), Antiochus I (“D” size bronze), Demetrius II (drachm), Antiochus X (drachm), and Antiochus Hierax (tetradrachm).

Stephen shared his recent CSNA speaker's medal.

Bill shared the new TAMS Guide to U.S. Shell Cards 1867-1880 by Q. David Bowers and a set of three medals produce by Dan Carr for the Spring 2014 gathering of So-Called Dollar collectors.

Raffle:

Federico won an Israeli state medal and a pewter plaque featuring J.B. & E. Guimet and their factory producing artificial aquamarine.

Chris won a Baltimore & Ohio Railroad stock certificate.

Dan won an uncirculated 1983 Olympic silver dollar.

Mary won "The Presidents" 5 piece coin set and a CD of the American Currency exhibit at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Annual Dues:

Dues: It is time to think about paying your dues for 2015. Dues are \$20 to help support the oldest numismatic organization in the West! Cash or checks are welcome at the November or December meeting. Or, you can mail your check to:

P.C.N.S.
PO Box 475656
San Francisco CA 94147

2015 meeting Schedule:

January 28, 2015: Building C, Fort Mason

February 25, 2015: Building C, Fort Mason

March 25, 2015: Building C, Fort Mason

April 22, 2015: Building C, Fort Mason

May 27, 2015: Building C, Fort Mason

June 2015: Date and location to be determined.

Plan to attend the PCNS 100th Anniversary Celebration in September, watch for more details as they become available.

PCNS 100th Anniversary Medal Design

Order by the end of March 2015.

The Board of Directors is approved medal designs for our 100th Anniversary Medal. The medal will be engraved and produced by Dan Carr and his Moonlight Mint in Colorado. Mintage will be limited to the number ordered.* Two options are available. Individual silver medals will cost \$75 each. A silver and copper set of medals can be ordered at \$95 for the set. Copper medals will not be available for individual purchase. Add \$6 for postage and handling if you want your medal(s) mailed to you. Medals will be minted in May/June and distributed at the anniversary dinner in September.

Please send your order and payment to PCNS, P.O. Box 475656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656.

*A limited number of to be determined additional medals will be struck as awards.

